

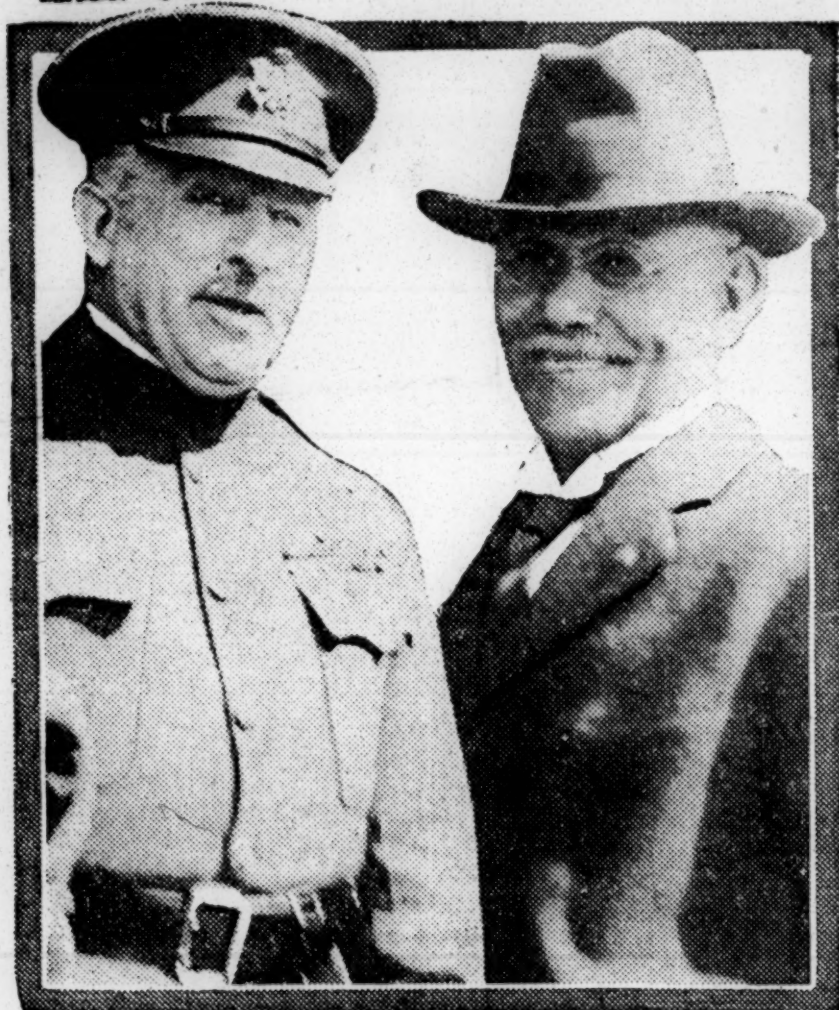
Soldiers - 1921.

Officers.

Parted 22 Years Ago—Gen.

Wood Greets Negro Soldier

MANCHESTER N. H. LEADER
APRIL 14, 1921



"General, how are you?"

"Why, Scott! This is a pleasure!"

And then General Leonard Wood grasped the brown hand of Scott G. Starr, negro, a resident of Oakland, California.

It happened aboard the ferry crossing San Francisco Bay. The General was surrounded by army and naval officers, but that didn't deter him from devoting five minutes to reminiscences of days past.

Neither had seen each other since 1899, yet the recognition was immediate.

Starr served under Wood for ten years, through the Indian wars of the early "Nineties," and the Spanish-American war. And he was with Wood and Roosevelt at the battle of San Juan Hill, Cuba, with the rank of 2nd lieutenant.

Starr retired from the army in 1900, after 33 years of service.

Capt. Kelly Gets

Promotion.

Negro Star 7/1/21

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July

1—Capt. Chas G. Kelly, former

Special Agent to Vocational Ad

visor for Vocational Training of

Negro wounded and disabled

soldiers, with headquarters at

Tuskegee Institute, has been pro-

moted to the position of Vo-

catiational Advisor for this section.

Capt. Kelly served with the A.

E. F.; as commander of Company

"G" 36th Infantry. Since being

honorably discharged he has

served in the capacity of Special

Agent to Vocational Advisor and

holds a commission of Captain in

the Reserve Officers' Corps of

the United States Army. The

effectiveness of his work with disabled soldiers is shown by his recent promotion which took effect July 16.

MISSION ENDED,

NEGRO CHAPLAIN

IS NOW HUNGRY

WASHINGTON D. C. HERALD
APRIL 3, 1921

Aged Pastor Discharged
At Ft. Myer Unable
To Go Home.

Old "Dad" Beatie, colored chaplain among the negro troops at Fort Myer, has been discharged from the service and is without a job.

Though himself in need now, Chaplain Beatie raised large sums for Liberty bonds and the Red Cross during the war among the negroes in the backwoods of Arkansas, his native State. He went into districts so remote that no other government worker ever penetrated them. In one small community he raised \$11,000 among his colored brothers, \$1,000 more than the allotment for the entire county. He raised four boys for the colored regiments during the war and brought back to camp four deserters who yielded to his primitive but eloquent appeal to their patriotism. He refused the customary reward, as he felt that he had but done his duty.

He has spent his life spreading the Gospel among the negroes of the South and his converts have numbered thousands. But for him the sun of life is setting, and, discharged in a strange city, his money rapidly dwindling, the prospects are far from alluring. He wants but the means of getting back to his little farm in Arkansas, where his devoted wife awaits him.

NEGROES APPLYING
FOR ARMY TRAINING

NEW ANTONIO TEX EXPRESS
JUNE 12, 1921

CAMPS FOR THEM MAY BE ESTABLISHED NEXT YEAR—NO PROVISION NOW.

More even apportionment of candidates for instruction in the Citizens' Military Training Camps of the 8th Corps Area than had been planned will be possible, be-

cause of arrangements that have been made with the Quartermaster Corps to salvage the uniforms at the close of the camps, according to an announcement yesterday from the office of Col. Joseph F. Gohn, officer in charge of the camps. Transportation funds will be increased by the money received from the return of the uniforms, so that it will be possible to fix the average distance traveled by each candidate at 337 miles instead of 209 miles as formerly.

Railway fare will be paid both to and from the two camps so that the average mileage traveled will be approximately 675 miles. Because of the large territory covered by the 8th Corps Area, including the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado, it was formerly thought that many of the candidates for training would have to be rejected, as only limited transportation funds were provided.

Many of the applicants for training live at distances less than 337 miles from either of the two camps, one of which will be held at Camp Travis, July 15 to August 14, and the other at Fort Logan, Colo., August 1 to 30, and the saving in railway fare in sending them to the camps will be used in sending candidates from greater distances. Applications for admission to the camps are reaching the 8th Corps Area headquarters in large numbers daily.

Among the applications received here are several from negroes. Col. Gohn said yesterday. No provision is made this year for training of the negroes, but it is believed that camps for them will be provided next year.

A drive for recruits for the two camps in this corps area will be staged by the American Legion, with the assistance of other organizations, June 20 to 25. Every legion post in Texas will take part in the campaign.

C. W. Scruggs of Dallas, State adjutant of the American Legion, will have charge of conducting the campaign. He will be assisted by John S. Oglesby of Dallas, State chairman of the Training Camp Association. Scottish Rite Masons and Elks of San Antonio have agreed to participate in the campaign.

The first shipment of insignia to be worn by citizens in the summer training camps was received at the 8th Corps Area headquarters yesterday. The design is similar to that of Gen. Pershing's headquarters, and was adopted only after special permission had been granted by the general. It will be worn upon the left breast of each man in the camps.

Stickers will also be provided. In the same design, to be put on baggage of the men attending. Enameled bronze buttons, bearing the design, will probably be furnished later, according to plans from the War Department.

OPPORTUNITY FOR
NEGROES TO BE-
COME OFFICERS

The Savannah Tribune
Local Branch of Order
Being Investigated

Tuskegee Institute, Oct. 12th (Associated Negro Press)—There are at present on the active list in the United States Army only two Negro line officers, namely: Lieutenant Col-

onel B. O. Davis, Calvary, now professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee Institute; and Major John E. Green, Infantry, professor of military science and tactics at Wilberforce University. In addition to these two line officers on the active list and Colonel Chas. Young, who is on the retired list, there are four Negro Chaplains assigned to the four colored regiments in the regular army, namely: the 9th and 10th Calvary and the 24th and 25th Infantry.

There are at present almost 3,000 vacancies in the Army for the grade of 2nd Lieutenant. Here is where the Negro has his opportunity. Until recently to become an officer in the regular Army, through examination, it was necessary to be an enlisted man. The difficulty lay

the gover

mination setting men of the requisite educational foundation to satisfactorily follow a career as an Army officer.

The elementary part of this examination embraces the subject of history, grammar, geography, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry and physics. The advanced part of the examination consists of a large number of subjects including mathematics, languages, literature, electricity, chemistry, law and minor tactics. Examination is required in but three of the subjects of the advanced group to be selected by the candidates.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR NEGROES TO BECOME OFFICERS IN THE REGULAR ARMY

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Tuskegee Institute, Oct. 13.—There are at present on the active list in the United States Army, only two Negro line officers, namely, Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, Cavalry, now professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee Institute; and Major John E. Green, Infantry, professor of military science and tactics at Wilberforce University. In addition to these two line officers on the active list and Colonel Chas. Young, who is on the retired list, there are four Negro Chaplains assigned to the four colored regiments in the regular army, namely; the 9th and 10th Cavalry, and the 24th and 25th Infantry.

There are at present almost 3,000 vacancies in the Army for the grade of 2nd Lieutenants. Here is where the Negro has his opportunity. Until recently to become an officer in the regular Army, through examination, it was necessary to be an enlisted man. The difficulties however, which the government experienced since the close of the Great war, in securing sufficient officers have caused the bars to be let down, so that at present a civilian may take the preliminary examination for a commission in the regular Army, and if he is successful in this examination may enlist as a reservist or become a member of the National Guard after which his final examination may be taken. Even if successful in this final examination he can still not accept the commission and remain in civil life.

Because of the fact that there is danger in the next few years of not having any Negro line officers, it is important that a number of young colored men with the requisite training should take these examinations for 2nd Lieutenant. The candidate

must be between the age of 21 and 30, and should be a college graduate or have general information to the same.

Opportunity To Become Regular Army Officer

The East Term News, Knoxville

10/13/21 (By The Associated Negro Press.)

Tuskegee Institute, Oct. 10.—There are at present on the active list in the United States army, only two Negro line officers, namely, Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, cavalry; and Major John L. Green, infantry, professor of military science and tactics at Wilberforce university. In addition to these two line officers on the active list and Colonel Chas. Young, who is on the retired list, there are four Negro chaplains assigned to the four colored regiments in the regular army, namely; the 9th and 10th cavalry and the 24th and 25th infantry.

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Because of the fact that there is danger in the next few years of not having any negro line officers, it is important that a number of young colored men with the requisite training should take these examinations for 2nd lieutenant. The candidate must between the ages of 21 and 30 and should be a college graduate or have general information equivalent to the same. The war department recently issued the following concerning examinations:

The preliminary examination consists merely of an inquiry into the physical, moral and mental qualifications of an applicant to determine whether or not he has requisite qualifications to justify his proceeding with the final examination. Such a preliminary examination will avoid inconveniences and unnecessary expenses to both the applicant and the government in many cases. Facilities for conducting these preliminary examinations at selected educational institutions prior to graduation will be provided by Corps Area Commanders.

The final examination in the same for all candidates and to insure strict justice to all, the examination papers will be marked by central boards convened in the war department. The scope of the mental examination is such as to insure the army getting men of the requisite educational foundation to satisfactorily follow a career of an army officer. The elementary part of this examination embraces the subject of history, grammar, geography, arithmetic, algebra,

geometry, trigonometry and physics. The advanced part of the examination consists of a large number of subjects including mathematics, languages, literature, electricity, chemistry, law and minor tactics. Examination is required in but three of the subjects of the advanced group to be selected by the candidate.

OPPORTUNITY IS OFFERED FOR NEGROES

The Birmingham Post-Herald
10/15/21
(By Associated Negro Press.)

Tuskegee Institute, Oct. 13.—There are at present on the active list in the United States Army, only two Negro line officers, namely: Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, Cavalry, now professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee Institute, and Major John E. Green, Infantry, now professor of military science and tactics at Wilberforce University. In addition to these two line officers on the active list and Colonel Chas. Young, who is on the retired list, there are four Negro Chaplains assigned to the four colored regiments in the regular army, namely, the 9th and 10th Cavalry, and the 24th and 25th Infantry.

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Because of the fact that there is danger in the next few years of not having any Negro line officers, it is important that a number of young colored men with the requisite training should take these examinations for 2nd Lieutenant. The candidate

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Soldiers - 1921.

Officers

CIVILIANS MAY NOW

BECOME OFFICERS

The Cleveland Ohio Call
Difficulties Experienced in
Securing Officers Since
Close of War Leads to
Innovation

(By The Associated Negro Press)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Oct. 14.—There are at present on the active list in the United States Army, only two Negro officers, namely; Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, Cavalry, and professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee Institute, and Major John E. Green, Infantry, professor of military science and tactics at Wilberforce University. In addition to these two line officers on the active list and Colonel Chas. Young, who is on the retired list, there are four Negro chaplains assigned to the four Colored regiments in the regular army, namely the 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry.

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Special Opportunity For
Negroes to Become Officers

The Wilmington Del Advocate
By The Associated Negro Press.

Tuskegee Institute, Oct. 13.—There are at present on the active list in the United States Army, only two Negro line officers, namely; Lieutenant Colonel B. O. Davis, Cavalry, now professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee Institute; and Major John E. Green, Infantry, professor of military science and tactics at Wilberforce University. In addition to these two line officers on the active list and Colonel Charles Young, who is on the retired list, there are four Negro Chaplains assigned to the four colored regiments in the regular army, namely; the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry.

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take these examinations for second lieutenant. The candidate must be between the ages of 21 and 30 and should be a college graduate or have general information equivalent to the same.

Soldiers - 1921

Organizations

TULSA OKLA. TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 14, 1921

The Tulsa negro ex-service men have organized the Wallace C. Moore post here with 31 members. Robert H. Snyder is post commander. Members of Joe Carson post assisted in the organization of the post.

Soldiers - 1921.

Organizations.

COLORED MEN MAY ORGANIZE

WHEELING W VA NEWS
AUGUST 18, 1921

MAY FORM BRANCH OF AMERICAN
LEGION EXCLUSIVELY
FOR COLORED SOLDIERS.

PRESENT PLAN IS TO TAKE IN
ALL THE EX-SERVICE MEN OF
THEIR RACE IN COUNTY.

MOST OF THE ONES GOING OUT
FROM HIS CITY HAVE
MOVED ELSEWHERE.

There is a movement on foot to organize a branch of the American Legion exclusively for colored ex-service men. Just how far the plan has progressed to date is not stated but it is known the promoters have every assurance that it will be a final success. The organization as proposed will include all colored ex-service men in Belmont county and they may decide to take in all the colored men who went out from the county regardless of whether they now live here or not. It is said most of the colored boys from this city who were in the service have left town to work and the same may be true over the county as well. They talk of inviting the absent ones to become members wherever they are. Upwards of fifty colored boys were sent out of the county to the various camps and if all could be gotten in the post it would make a respectable organization. When the local post was organized it was said they invited the eligible colored boys to join but they preferred. It is said to wait until such time as they could have a post of their own. Organization of the new post is being pushed in this city, Bellaire and St. Clairsville, and in the next month or so there will be some tangible result from their efforts.

Oklahoma

West Virginia

Soldiers - 1921.

Organizations.

BALTIMORE MD. MORN. SUN
MAY 2, 1921

Negro War Mothers Form Chapter.
The Service Star Legion yesterday formed the Adams-Bell Chapter among colored war mothers at a meeting at St. Peter Claver's Catholic Church. The chapter is said to be the first of its kind formed in Maryland and the second in the United States.

Maryland

Soldiers - 1921.

California

Organizations.

ST FRANCISCO CAL BULLETIN
JUNE 4 1921

Employment Plans For Colored "Vets" Object of Meeting

A mass meeting for colored veterans will be held Tuesday at 1849 Sutter street by Buffalo Post, No. 164, American Legion. Ways and means will be devised to find employment for all colored ex-service men. None but ex-service men will be admitted, but all colored men who served in the war are invited.

Commander Herbert W. Greene will preside.

Soldiers - 1921.

Organization

American Legion Head- quarters Here

6-21-21
Through the efforts of the American Legion and members of the recent legislature, World War veterans of Tennessee now have an institution that functions as the clearing house for information and complaints and serves as the connecting link between the ex-service man and the government red tape offices in Washington.

Within the past few weeks the new Ex-Service Men's Bureau, with Guy H. May, state adjutant of the Legion, as director, has been set up in Knoxville. Work has started with a rush and requests for information and adjustment of claims, etc., are pouring in daily.

The bureau was made possible by the enactment of a bill by the recent legislature, which carried an appropriation of \$10,000 a year for a period of two years. The bill was sponsored by the Legion and befriended by Gov. Alf Taylor, who appointed Mr. May director, upon recommendation of the Legion executive committee.

An investigation made by the Legion showed that hundreds of deserving world war veterans in Tennessee, especially in the rural sections, had no knowledge of the compensation offered by the government to those who were disabled in the service.

It was determined that these deserving veterans should not be bereft of the governmental assistance due them and it was decided that a bureau to investigate these claims and otherwise assist ex-service men should be established. Consequently, the Legion got busy, with the result that the Ex-Service Men's Bureau is now an accomplished fact.

Tennessee

Soldiers - 1921

Organization of

COLORED LEGIONAIRES

MADE GOOD SHOWING
Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 10.—Over six hundred candidates and Buddies attended the annual convention of the American Legion here.

In the parade on Tuesday which took three and one-half hours to pass the reviewing stand, the division of colored men, headed by their own band, evoked tremendous applause thru the length of the parade.

Missouri.

Soldiers - 1921.

Organization of

SEPERATE POSTS FOR NEGROES

By The Associated Negro Press.

Worcester, Mass. Jan. 14th.—

The organization of separate posts for Colored men was authorized at the first meeting of the council of administration of the Massachusetts department, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Efforts will be made to encourage all Colored men who saw foreign service in Uncle Sam's armed forces, establish such posts.

In authorizing the organization of Colored veterans' posts, the council acted in accordance with regulations of the national department, which refused to allow Colored men to join white's posts, and vice versa.— Council members will make campaigns in their own sections to interest men in the plan. In Worcester this work will be done by John Trump, representative of Worcester veterans of the council.

Massachusetts.

Soldiers - 1921
Regular Army.
**Race Troops
Furnish Few
Deserters**
Chicago Defender
7/30/21

Nogales, Ariz., July 29.—A letter from the chief of infantry, United States army, to the commanding officer of the 25th Infantry, Race regiment stationed here, shows that the desertion rate in this regiment is lower than one-half the rate for the army as a whole.

The chief of infantry in his letter says: "A study of comparative desertions among infantry regiments for the four months period from December, 1921, to March, 1921, contained in a letter from the adjutant general of the army, dated June 10, 1921, shows that the desertion rates for your regiment during the period mentioned to have been less than one-half of the average rate for the infantry as a whole. The low rate maintained in your regiment is very gratifying to this office and shows an appreciation, by yourself and your officers and non-commissioned officers, of the importance of reducing the desertion rate in an organization. It is desired to extend to you and the members of your command the thanks of this office for your efforts in behalf of a lower desertion rate."

The communication continues with a request that the commanding officer of the regiment submit to Washington a report showing any special measures or reasons producing the excellent showing of the organization which would be beneficial in assisting other organizations to achieve the same success.

COLORED REPRESENTATION IN THE NATIONAL ARMY TO BE REDUCED — THOUSANDS EXPECTED TO PROTEST

New York Dispatch
**Army to Have Reduction of 8 Units—9th and 10th Cavalry
Are Said to Be Among Them—Colored Units
Same Since Civil War.**
7/2/21

Instead of increasing colored representation is the National Army a sinister move is on foot to reduce it according to information from well informed sources, in Washington yesterday. A reduction of the Army has been considered for a long time and it is now understood that there will be a demobilization of eight units—

Reducing Units in the U. S. Army

The rumor is afloat and not without some good evidence that the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry of the U. S. Army are to be discontinued. The article bearing same appeared in Washington papers last week, but without editorial comment. This reduction is supposed to be a part of the general scheme of reducing governmental expenses. Thus the Ninth and Tenth, along with six white units are said to be prepared for the dump heap. What does this reduction mean to loyal Afro-Americans? How will this reduction be received by 12,000,000 persons of African descent? What ought to be done by loyal colored Americans?

To begin, it is not a matter of expenses where the two colored units are concerned. It is the Bourbon attempt to further reduce colored military genius and discourage the colored youth from entering a military pursuit. Such an act is down right robbery and a formal expression of ungratefulness to the colored fighters who are, and have always been ready to defend the flag.

If colored men and women permit this reduction to go by without fighting to the last ditch for the retention of these units—the days of the colored fighter in the U. S. Army will be numbered. Not since the Civil War have the people of African descent had an increase in the regular Army. When the colored population was 4 million there were 4 units in the Army; when the colored population reached 12,000,000 there are still the same 4 units. Colored Americans everywhere—a reduction of our 4 units is Military suicide. Fight and protest this pernicious act. It must not be done.

these units will include the 9th and 10th Cavalry.

It is a peculiar coincident no less than an unheralded fact that just at the time when forces are at work to have the colored representation in the Army increased that word comes to the effect that not only will representation not be increased, but it seems almost certain that the present representation of four units will be cut to two.

There has been practically no publicity given to this demobilization of the colored units except a casual mention in the Washington papers this week. Many rumors are afloat as to the advisability of reducing the small representation on in the Army that the colored people now have, and it is thought that a wholesale demonstration of protests from colored people everywhere will arise, when this demobilizing scheme is more fully aired. When it is understood that colored units in the National Army have not been increased since the civil war despite the growth of the colored population, the reduction of colored units seems pernicious and ungrateful.

The ire of leaders has been aroused and they are expected to register their attitude when the official demobilizing scheme is made known.

NINTH AND TENTH REGIMENTS WILL NOT BE DROPPED

New York Dispatch
**Senator Wadsworth Sends
Military Communication to
N. A. A. C. P. That Not Only
Will 9th and 10th Remain
but Another Colored Regiment Will Be Added.**
9/16/21

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has received word to the effect that not only will the 9th and 10th Cavalry remain in service but another colored regiment is to be organized for foreign service. The Dispatch reported this unhappy incident as it appeared in the Washington Evening Star August 19.

"Sweeping changes in reorganization of all cavalry units of the army, placing the second Cavalry Division, comprising the 3d and 4th brigades and the 3d and 4th Machine Gun Squadrons, on the inactive list and demobilizing units of the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 15th Cavalry Regiments were ordered by the War Department."

After investigation the National Association received the following letter from Senator Wadsworth:

"No orders have been issued to demobilize the 9th and 10th Cavalry. The writer probably misunderstood an order to demobilize several troops of these two colored regiments and of all white regiments. As a result of the reorganization and reduction of the army, all regiments, white and colored,

have been reduced from fifteen troop regiments to eight troop regiments. In addition, three white Cavalry regiments are being placed on the "Inactive List."

The 9th and 10th Cavalry will remain "Active" and be organized exactly like all white cavalry regiments and an additional colored machine gun troop will be maintained in the Philippines.

9TH AND 10TH CAV- ALRY NOT TO BE DEMOBILIZED

The Birmingham Post-Herald
The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made public the text of a letter written by the adjutant general on September 2, stating that no order has been given to demobilize the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry as had been reported.

This was occasioned by an article in the Washington Evening Star of August 19, carrying the following news:

"Sweeping changes in reorganization of all cavalry units of the army, placing the second cavalry division, comprising the 3rd and 4th brigades, and the 3rd and 4th machine gun squadrons, on the inactive list and demobilizing units of the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 15th cavalry regiments, were ordered today by the War Department."

The association immediately communicated with Senators Capper and Wadsworth and Congressman Hamilton Fish, Jr., asking if this statement was correct and whether they could advise any action to be taken by the association to insure the preservation of the 9th and 10th cavalry regiments.

As a result the following letter addressed to Senator Wadsworth by the adjutant general was forwarded to the offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

"No orders have been issued to demobilize the 9th and 10th cavalry. The writer probably misunderstood an order to demobilize several troops of these two colored regiments and of all white regiments. As a result of the reorganization and reduction of the army, all regiments, white and colored, have been reduced from fifteen troop regiments to eight troop regiments. In addition, three white cavalry regiments are being placed on the 'inactive list.'"

"The 9th and 10th cavalry will re-

main 'active' and be organized exactly like all white cavalry regiments, and an additional colored machine gun troop will be maintained in the Philippines."

FORTY-SEVEN NAMES ON MACON COUNTY

7/3/21 DELINQUENT LIST
Montgomery Advertiser

Forty-seven names were on the military delinquent list for Macon county made public today by the state military department at the command of the commanding officer of the fourth corps area. Among the names of those who failed to report for military service are several students of the Tuskegee institute for negroes who came to the school from Porto Rico.

The Macon county delinquent list follows: Dock Adams, Fort Davis; Prince Albert, Shorter; John E. Everett, Shorter; Henry Boykin, Tuskegee; James Caldwell, Tuskegee route one; Robert Calhoun, Hardaway; David Campbell, Fort Davis; Zebude Clayborn, Loachapoka route one; Henry Crittenden, Notasulga; Lucius Curington, Tuskegee; Tejado de Jesus, Tuskegee Institute; Josie Israel Escape, Moyogeng, Porto Rico, or Tuskegee Institute; Charlie Gary, Armstrong; Elias Gibbs, Tuskegee; Ruber Gilbert, Auburn route three; Will Gilmore, Tuskegee; Leonard Goggins, Milstead; Frank Harris, Shorter; Jesse Harris, Booth Station; Noah Hawkins, Downs; Charlie Ingram, Shorter; Charlie Jackson, Shorter; Dave James, Tuskegee; Will James, Hardaway; Richard Johnson, Tuskegee; Will Kinewbrew, Tuskegee; George Ernest Lee, Tuskegee; William E. Lewis, Tuskegee Institute; Henry Ligon, Tuskegee, or care Knoxville Power Company, Topoca, N. C.; Jackson Ligon, Tuskegee; Ammon Mitchell Armstrong; Vincent Munzi, Tuskegee Institute; Marcus O'Neal, Tuskegee; Nathan Padgett, Tuskegee; Willie Pride, Downs; Wm. Roberson, Tuskegee Institute; Alex Robinson, Fort Davis; William Mc. Ross, Tuskegee; Juan Manuel Seres, Tuskegee Institute; Jim Sistrunk, Northport; Lee Sistrunk, Tuskegee; Will Sizemore, Gabbett; Will Swanson, Guerrytown; Wm. Trawick, Tuskegee; James Turner, Shorter; Lonza Wells, Tuskegee; William Tero Wesley, Tuskegee Institute; Homer Wheelis, Tuskegee Institute.

SLANDER OF 25TH INF. REFUTED BY INSP. GEN.

Nogales, Ariz., Citizens
Bear Testimony To
Good Conduct

Nagales, Arizona.—Statements made by G. B. Mason, special agent of the Customs Service, concerning the conduct of men of the 25th Infantry, U. S. A., stationed here at Camp Stephen D. Little, caused an investigation to be conducted by Lieut.-Col. W. V. Norris, Inspector General. Exhaustive inquiry into condition at Nogales was made by Col. Morris and his staff, and the result was embodied in a report which gave the colored regiment a clean bill of health declaring that the conduct of the

enlisted men of the regiment is and has been as good, if not better, than that of the white troops previously stationed here.

Col. Morris requested that a copy of his findings be furnished the Secretary of the Treasury, with a request that effective measures be taken to prevent similar libellous attacks in the future.

He declared that notwithstanding the proximity of Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, where intoxicants are easily obtainable, the conduct of the men had been excellent, and that the men had cooperated with local officers in preservation of the peace. Mason's allegations concerning serious difficulties were pure supposition, said the Inspector General's report, and there was no evidence to support the inference that colored soldiers had taken advantage of numerical superiority to violate State and Federal laws with impunity.

The report continued—"On the contrary the evidence shows that violations of the law have been less than would be expected of the same number of soldiers of any race under similar conditions. . . . That the conditions at Nogales, instead of becoming more aggravating, are as good as, or better than they have ever been."

Col. Carnahan, commanding the 25th, published the report to his men, and stated that the Inspector General's conclusions were based largely on fair, just and voluntary statements of members of the civil community of all degrees of standing, from the humblest to the highest, who refuted the statements of Mason and bore testimony to the soldierly conduct and bearing of the regiment, and its sense of respect for law and order.

WEST INDIANS IN LATE WORLD WAR

Fighting Qualities of Our
Men Brought Out When
They Got Their Chance
in Palestine.

The West India Committee Circular of Dec. 9 publishes the following:—Lieut.-Colonel C. Wood-Hill, D.S.O., who commanded the 1st British West Indies Regiment during the war, was the guest of the West Indian Club at a dinner at which Mr. Algernon Aspinall, C.M.G., presided, on Nov. 24.

Mr. Aspinall, proposing the health of the guest, said that since the West Indian Club dinners had been started twenty-one years ago—and he was reminded that this year marked their coming of age—it had been an unwritten rule that their guests should be men of distinction, associated directly or indirectly with the West Indian colonies. Colonel Wood-Hill ad-

mirably fulfilled both of these qualifications. It was largely owing to his persistent efforts that the officers and men of the British West Indies Regiment were permitted to realize their ambition to "go over the top" in Palestine, which they did with such precision and courage that they earned the

unstinted praise and admiration of the Dominion troops brigaded with them. During a recent visit to the West Indies, he (the speaker) had noticed with regret that the services of the British West Indies Regiment were not so fully appreciated as they might be. The splendid work which the men performed in France in "humping" shells for the heavy guns appeared to be forgotten. Forgotten, too, was the brilliant advance in Palestine, to which he had just referred. What was the result? Rumors spread abroad, and he had been distressed to see it stated in an article by a Mr. Franck, in the "Century Magazine," of America, that not a single West Indian soldier had died facing the enemy. He characterized that statement as a gross libel to which the casualty statistics of the British West Indies Regiment gave the lie direct.

Under Secretary for Colonies.

Lieut.-Colonel L. S. Amery, M.P., the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, in supporting the toast, referred to Colonel Wood-Hill as one of the oldest and best personal friends, and mentioned that when in the old days of party politics he had come to help him electioneering, he was worth a whole battalion of canvassers. It was Colonel Wood-Hill's keenness, persistence and insight that had induced the authorities in Egypt to look upon the West Indies Regiment as more than hewers of wood and drawers of water, and to realize at last that the proper place for these splendid men was as fighting units in the front line—with what result they had already heard. It was in Palestine that the enemy power first toppled, and that contributed more than anything to the final catastrophic collapse of Germany's morale. The West Indies had taken a really effective part in the war and the result had been a new consciousness of their corporate sense as a unit of the Empire.

Referring to the Ottawa Trade Agreement, Colonel Amery spoke of the remarkable unanimity that prevailed and said that it was the first meeting of the kind at which all the West Indian colonies had been represented. That agreement, in his opinion, marked the beginning of a further active development throughout the British West Indies. The full significance of Imperial Preference had not yet, perhaps, been fully appreciated. When it was realized in the West Indies that this Preference was intended to be permanent, confidence, stability and enterprise would naturally ensue.

Colonel Hill's Reply.

Replying to the toast, which was cordially honored, Colonel Wood-Hill briefly traced the history of the British West Indies Regiment from the year 1915, when they were brought into being. They went, he said, to Egypt full of the highest hopes, but there they found 148 brigadiers (laughter) who had never before seen Caribbean folk, and they were condemned to one and a half years of miserable, dreadful experience on the lines of communication. Then the 60th Division came out, commanded by Sir Edward Bullfin. This general, who was the nephew of Sir Francis Fleming, understood West Indians, and within a week he said he would like to have the British West Indies Regiment in his (the 21st) Corps. The "Westie" might have faults, but he had many notably fine qualities as a soldier, especially his loyalty and pride of Empire. He (the speaker) personally had found no difficulty in commanding these troops, which he attributed largely to his sense of humor. To illustrate this, Colonel Wood-Hill told the following story: He was once warned that his life was in danger, and the names of six or seven soldiers who had threatened him were disclosed. He promptly appointed the ringleader, whose record on the conduct sheets was far from creditable, an unpaid lance-corporal, and detailed the whole of the gang for special employment, posting them round his tent at night to protect him from molestation. They appreciated the joke as much as he did, and he was able to congratulate them on the efficient way they had carried out their duties. (Laughter.)

Colonel Wood-Hill concluded by paying a tribute to the West Indian Contingent Committee, which had been so indefatigable in looking after the interests of the troops as far as could be done at home.

The health of the chairman having been proposed by Mr. R. Rutherford, the chairman of the club, the company adjourned to the club room, where the remainder of a pleasant evening was spent.

Where Our Colored Troops Are Located

The 9th Cavalry is stationed at Camp Stotsenburg, P. I. The 10th Cavalry is stationed at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. The 24th Infantry, less Cos F. & G. and 3rd Battalion, is stationed at Camp Furlong, Columbus, N. M. Cos. F. and G. are at Hachita, New Mexico. The 3rd Battalion is stationed at Camp Benning, Ga. The 25th Infantry is stationed at Nogales, Arizona.

Soldiers - 1921

Regular Army.

NEW DETAILS OF EXPEDITION INTO MEXICO SHOW HARD FIGHTING

N. Y. Times 11/13/21

Actual incidents of the fighting in Mexico, as set forth in the report of General Pershing, show that the American expeditionary force encountered more serious opposition than published accounts indicated. Many of the facts concerning this fighting have been hidden away in the secret files of the War Department, and now become known for the first time.

On March 29, 1916, fourteen days after the pursuit of Villa began, American cavalry attacked a band of Villistas encamped near Guerrero. The report tersely states that "the band was routed. Of the enemy, thirty bodies were found; the number borne away is unknown. Four American troopers were wounded."

Near San Borja, on April 8, a force of mounted Carranza troops charged upon the command of Major Howze, who put his men in formation to receive them, then ran forward to meet the charge, waving his hat. The Mexicans stopped within fifty yards of him, a clash was avoided, and possible war averted.

At Parral, on April 12, Major Tompkins permitted a considerable Mexican force to pursue his own command several miles in an effort to keep peace with all Mexicans except Villistas. But the pursuit grew too hot for American honor. Major Tompkins stopped, wheeled his men, and killed forty-two Mexicans.

Colonel Dood's column, at Tomochie, on April 21, broke up a band of Villistas with numerous casualties to the enemy. Major Howze came in contact with a Villa detachment after an all-night ride on the morning of May 5, near Ojos Azules, killed sixty-one and wounded a number.

The well-remembered fight at Carrizal took place on June 21, when a small American force found itself confronting a considerable body of Mexicans. Captain Boyd made ready to follow up his purpose of entering the town and dismounted in range. Just then he was fired on and the American line went forward to a man.

"The American force numbered three officers and 87 men; the enemy 400," says the report. "The American losses were nine killed, twelve wounded; the enemy, 42 killed, 51 wounded. Seventeen American soldiers were made prisoners."

Soldiers - 1921.

Rehabilitation of Disabled

The Sweet bill for soldier relief has been passed by the United States Senate. It provides for the creation of a Veterans' Bureau and the consolidation of all soldier relief agencies for the decentralization of compensation and insurance matters now operated by the War Department and for the liberalization of compensation awards so as to relieve any former soldier suffering from ailments for which his war service was responsible. An important amendment, introduced by Senator Walsh of Massachusetts, transfers the burden of proving the origin of disability from the soldier to the government. The bill now goes into the hands of a conference committee of the House and Senate.

A SENATOR TO THE LEGION

United States Senator Walsh of Massachusetts was reported as making a stirring address before the New Jersey Department of the American Legion at Asbury Park last week. In the course of his remarks he denounced the failure of the government to provide adequately for the needs of America's disabled soldiers and its hesitancy to compensate the service men for their work under arms in proportion to the profits of the laborers and profiteers who remained at home.

Senator Walsh told the members of the legion that they had another great work to do in battering down the influences which are tending to destroy the democracy of the nation. He took a shot at the Ku Klux Klan when he called upon his hearers to use their individual and concerted efforts "to break down any group trying to stir up racial hatred and animosities in the land." He appealed to the legion:

"For God's sake let us end forever thoughts of where a man came from, what his color may be and who his ancestors were and ask of him only whether he is willing to fight and die for American principles."

That is the kind of talk that is needed from United States Senators and Representatives in Congress, both on the floor of their respective houses and to the people at large. With this broad sentiment inculcated in the community and in the nation, embodied in its laws and permeating their administration, the country would truly become a land of liberty. But it needs more sturdy advocates like Senator Walsh to voice such sentiments and true Americans like the members of the legion to put them into practice.

SIX SCHOOLS FOUND UNFIT FOR VETERANS

Baltimore Pro-American
Conditions Reported Unfavorable In Nearly

Half of Southern
Institutions

DR. CROSSLAND BACK

Recommends Government
Schools For Training of
Ex-Soldiers

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—Dr. J. R. A. Crossland, special expert in the United States Veterans Bureau, has returned after inspecting southern schools in which ex-service men are being trained.

From the report submitted to Colonel Forbes, white, director of the Bureau, it appears that unfavorable conditions exist in six of the thirteen institutions inspected. Remaining institutions were

reported favorably. As many as hundred fifty ex-service men were found in training in schools like Hampton and Tuskegee, while some of the smaller schools had only two ex-service men as students.

Other institutions inspected included Norfolk Y. M. C. A.; Greensboro, N. C., Agricultural School; Orangeburg, S. C., Industrial School; Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Ga.; Union Industrial Institute, Mississippi; Southern University, Tuskegee, Y. M. C. A.; State Agricultural College, Nashville, Tenn.; Knoxville College, Tennessee; Kentucky Normal School, Frankfort.

General recommendations were made by Dr. Crossland to the Director, that the men now in placement training be taken out and placed in national trade universities to be organized by the Government. Special recommendations were made with regard to the inadequacy of certain of the

institutions inspected by him.

Dr. Crossland will start on another inspection tour within the next few days. His itinerary will include all the schools, in the Middle Atlantic States giving vocational training to colored ex-service men.

Soldiers - 1921.

Texas.

Riots.

ASKS CONGRESS TO INVESTIGATE HOUSTON RIOT

Chicago Whip 11/24/21

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—Untiring efforts of friends of members of the 24th Infantry, who were convicted of implication in the Houston riots of August, 1917, have resulted in the passage of a resolution in the House of Representatives, calling upon the Secretary of War to investigate the case from beginning to end.

The resolution hints that evidence has not proved that all the men convicted actually participated in the riots, and calls attention to the large amount of clemency which has been extended in the cases of other military prisoners.

The resolution, which was submitted by Representative Anthony, reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of War is requested to transmit to the House of Representatives at the earliest possible moment the following information for the members of the House: Whether the evidence before the court which tried those soldiers of the United States Army who were alleged to have been implicated in the riot at Houston, Texas, on the 23rd day of August, 1917, as a result of which 19 were hanged, 62 sent to the United States penitentiary for life, and five given sentences of fifteen years each, showed the direct participation of all of them in said riot; whether or not it is true that some of these soldiers now under confinement were found guilty merely because they were absent from roll call the evening of the riot; what steps if any, the War Department has taken or is taking toward the investigation of the justice of the severe penalties inflicted upon these soldiers, together with information as to their conduct, discipline, and behavior during the years they have been in confinement; and what steps have been taken by the War Department, in view of the large measure of clemency which has been extended in the cases of other military prisoners, to pardon or extend clemency to the men now undergoing severe punishment for alleged participation in said riot.

ASKED HARDING FOR PARDONS

Savannah Tribune
New York, Dec. 23.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, today made public the following telegram sent to President Harding, urging consideration in the Christmas pardons for the 67 colored members of the 24th Infantry now in Leavenworth prison:

President Warren G. Harding
The White House

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in view of the Christmas pardons which it is reported you will issue, again respectfully calls your attention to the 67 members of the 24th Infantry in Leavenworth Prison, in whose behalf a petition signed by 50,000 persons was presented to you on September 28, 1921. May we express the hope that the case of these men will receive consideration among those of others convicted in war time?

Soldiers - 1921

Riots.

ARREST RECALLS RIOT OF 24TH INFANTRYMEN

Chicago Defender

Ex-Policeman, Who Caused
Conflict, Nabbed for Mak-
ing Moonshine Whisky

(BY CONTINENTAL PRESS.)

Houston, Texas, Jan. 21.—On August 23, 1917, this city was thrown into a reign of terror when Corporal Charles Baltimore of the 24th United States Infantry, stationed here, was brutally assaulted by a city policeman when he protested against the latter's treatment of a woman who was being clubbed by the officer. Baltimore, who was later changed after trial by court-martial, returned to camp with his head in bandages. Excitement ran high among the soldiers when Baltimore told his story and Sergeant Vida Henry collected a group of 24th infantrymen and marched on the town.

Says He's Bootlegger

Grewsome scenes on that fatal night were recalled here recently, but the "shoe was on another foot." Lee Sparks (white), ex-policeman, who clubbed the woman and attacked Corporal Baltimore, was arrested by federal agents on a charge of manufacturing bootleg whisky in violation of the Volstead act. The fact that Sparks was placed behind the bars by federal officials gives citizens here the assurance that political pull cannot interfere with justice.

Sees Conviction

Authorities who nabbed Sparks claimed that he has been under investigation for several months, and that they have a clear case against him. The officers, it is said, took Sparks by surprise. Judge J. C. Hutcheson is scheduled to try the case. Manufacture of whisky carries with it a penitentiary sentence. Sparks, it is claimed, has openly boasted of the fact that he is responsible for 41 soldiers being in Leavenworth prison, and that he did not regret causing the affair. Over 17 white people of Houston were killed during the clash with soldiers.

24 INFANTRY MEN TO GET ANOTHER HEARING IN COURT

Attorneys Get Appeal Order in Effort to Secure Release of Men Hurriedly Convicted in Houston, Texas.

Negro World 5/28/21

LEAVENWORTH, Kansas.—Efforts were renewed here two weeks ago to release the men of the Twenty-fourth Infantry who are confined in the Federal Penitentiary here.

A petition for executive clemency was forwarded to President Harding through Secretary of War Weeks, and T. W. Bell, one of the attorneys for the men, secured the signature of Judge John Pollock to an order allowing an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals. This appeal will probably be heard next September before the Circuit Court of Appeals at Denver.

The first attempt for freedom on the part of attorneys for the men was unsuccessful. It was in May of last year that an argument for writ of habeas corpus was made before Judge Pollock of the United States District Court. The brief in the case recited testimony, affidavits and copies of military orders, especially court-martial orders issued at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where the men were convicted.

Convicted Under Special Orders.

It was the contention of the counsel that the order of the court-martial was not in accordance with laws set out in the court-martial manual, that at the time of the riot the men were not doing soldier duty for the United States and that the United States was not at war. It was alleged, too, that the former soldiers were convicted under special orders from headquarters of the Southern Department not regularly issued. It was claimed that many of the petitioners had no right to appeal and that there was no evidence against many of them.

After the case was argued and all the briefs were submitted Judge Pollock took it under advisement, and after making a thorough review of the briefs upon his return from an extended vacation the decision was handed down

last December. The writ was denied but Judge Pollock signed the order allowing an appeal.

ng a colored woman under arrest Officer Sparks (white) slapped her in the face. Private Alonzo Edwards Company L, Twenty-fourth Infantry attempted to protect the woman, and as a result was promptly beaten up and placed under arrest by Sparks.

About 2 o'clock p. m. of the same day Corporal Charles Baltimore, Company I, Twenty-fourth Infantry, a member of the military police, approached Officer Sparks and Officer Daniels, engaging Sparks in conversation relative to the arrest of Edwards. Sparks struck Baltimore over the head with a pistol. Baltimore then ran. Sparks fired three shots and pursued Baltimore. When he caught up with him he struck him several blows on the head with his pistol and arrested him.

The news of that incident quickly reached the camp of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, where the report that Corporal Baltimore had been killed served to intensify the feelings of the soldiers against the city policemen.

As a result of the court-martial proceedings several soldiers were executed. Nineteen or more were sentenced to life imprisonment. Others received short sentences, served at the disciplinary barracks of Fort Leavenworth. Only a few were acquitted. Sixty-three still remain in prison.

HARDING URGED TO PARDON U. S. SOLDIERS

The Afro-American 3/30/21

Delegation At White House
Asks Clemency For 24th
Infantry Men Who
Shot Up Houston

PRESIDENT NON-COMMITTAL

Amazes Delegation By Remarks That Ku Klux Is
Not Fighting Negroes

(Staff Correspondence)

Wash. D. C., Sept. 29.—Bearing a petition signed by fifty thousand persons asking executive clemency and pardon for sixty-one members of the United States Infantry, imprisoned at Leavenworth, Kansas, a delegation of twenty-five persons were received at the White House, yesterday morning. A delegation, headed by the Chinese Minister, came in to see the President as the first delegation was going out.

James W. Johnson, of New York, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, acted as spokesman and asked the President to pardon the men charged with shooting up Houston, Texas in August 1917, on the ground of their long record of bravery and further because only colored people were punished for charges growing out the riot. He also urged the President to take active measures against the Ku Klux Klan.

The President accepted the petition, but was non-committal as to what steps he would take. In referring to the K. K. K., Mr. Harding amazed the delegation by saying, "I do not believe that the present day Klan like the Klan of 1860 is hostile to Negroes." Mr. Johnson made no effort to argue this point with him and the delegation was excused. They stopped outside the executive office long enough to pose for a photograph and disbanded. Prominent among the number were Dr. Emmet Scott, secretary of Howard University, President John Hope, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga., F. B. Ransom, Indianapolis, Archibald K. Grimke, and Mrs. Alice Dunbar Nelson, of Wilmington, Delaware.

Delegation Goes In Early

A representative of the AFRO-AMERICAN, who arrived here on a late train rushed up to the White House at 10.15 only to find the delegation had already entered one of the President's private offices, and Mr. Harding himself was talking. The AFRO man protested that the delegation was not scheduled to be received until 10.20, and after some argument with Secretary McKenna was shown into the President's office.

He arrived in time to hear the President assert that "Ku Klux Klan was not fighting colored people," and to note the expression of astonishment that passed over the face of the delegation.

No Faith In Harding

While Mr. Johnson, thanked the delegation for coming and expressed the hope that something had been accomplished, a poll of several members of the delegation brought forth the information that Mr. Harding is altogether cold and unsympathetic towards the propositions presented. One of them declared afterward that he preferred a hostile president like Wilson to Mr. Harding who only pretends friendship.

OBJECT TO RELEASE OF INFANTRY

The Chicago Defender

10/8/21
Houston Wires/Harding to
Ignore Clemency Plea for
Sixty-one Soldiers

Houston, Tex., Oct. 7.—Over 6,000 business men of this city represented in the Chamber of Commerce have sent a telegram to President Harding demanding that he ignore the petition presented to him by officers of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and others, in behalf of the 61 former soldiers of the 24th Infantry Regiment who are now serving long-time sentences in Leavenworth. Besides the telegram dispatched by the Chamber of Commerce another was sent by County Judge Chester A. Bryan.

Both these messages urge upon the President that he restrain a use of executive clemency and permit the hasty decision of the strange court-martial held in Houston to stand. The judge even goes so far as to admit that, at the time of the rioting, the lynching spirit was in the air. He commends Houstonians for their conservatism in handling the situation and for "yielding their own impulses and believing that the offenders would be adequately punished by law."

Houston Telegram

The text of the Chamber of Commerce telegram reads:

"Press reports announce presentation to you of petition for release of Negro rioters from 24th Infantry convicted of rioting in this city in 1917. Representing the commercial interests of this city and with a membership of over 6,000 business men, this organization protests against the release of these Negroes. To afford them their liberty is but to invite a recurrence of the lamentable affair suffered by this community and for their part in which these men are now paying the penalty. We doubt if 1 per cent of those who signed the petition presented to you know the facts surrounding the conviction of these men.

Charge Prejudice

"It is evident from press reports that an appeal has been made to those who signed this petition based only on race association, and we submit that there will be no advancement to the Colored Race by releasing these rioters to go among their own color and be looked upon and

lauded as heroes. Such a situation would encourage further disorder, and we respectfully submit that the time is especially appropriate now for an insistence upon the observance of law and a strict payment of the penalty when the law is violated. We sincerely hope your excellency will permit the full payment of the penalty adjudged by a fair court after a fair trial in the case of these men." The judge in his telegram claimed to represent both races throughout the county.

Data Is Asked on

Houston's Negro Riot

Associated Press Report. WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—A resolution requesting the secretary of war to inform the house whether court evidence had shown conclusively that all of the soldiers convicted for participating in the Houston, Texas, riot in August, 1917, were guilty, was introduced Wednesday by Representative Anthony, republican, of Kansas. Nineteen of the soldiers were hanged, 62 were sentenced to life imprisonment and five were sent to prison for 15 years, Mr. Anthony said.

The resolution asked whether it was true that "some of the men now under confinement were found guilty merely because they were absent from roll call on the evening of the riot." Mr. Anthony inquired as to what steps the war department had taken toward investigating "the justness of severe penalties" inflicted and whether the question of extending clemency had been considered.

CONG. ANTHONY IN RESOLUTIONS

Asks Information Regarding Trial of Men of the 24th Infantry.

Joseph R. Plain Dealer
Hanson 12/25/21
Hon. Elisha Scott, in receipt of the following Resolution, which has been submitted to the House of Representatives, in connection with the members of the 24th Infantry who are now confined at Leavenworth. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs of which Congressman D. R. Anthony is chairman.

The resolution is as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of War is requested to transmit to the

House of Representatives at the earliest possible moment the following information for the Members of the House: Whether the evidence before the court which tried those soldiers of the United States Army who were alleged to have been implicated in the riot at Houston, Texas, on the 23rd day of August, 1917, as a result of which nineteen were hanged, sixty-two sent to the United States penitentiary for life, and five given sentences of fifteen years each, showed the direct participation of all of them in said riot; whether or not it is true that some of these soldiers now under confinement were found guilty merely because they were absent from roll call the evening of the riot; what steps, if any, the War Department has taken or is taking toward the investigation of the justice of the severe penalties inflicted upon these soldiers together with information as to their conduct, discipline and behavior during the years they have been in confinement; and what steps have been taken by the War Department, in view of the large measure of clemency which has been extended in the cases of other military prisoners, to pardon or extend clemency to the men now undergoing severe punishment for alleged participation in said riot.



HON. ELISHA SCOTT

One of the Attorneys secured by the Kansas Defense Society to bring about the release of the boys of the 24th Infantry.

No Clemency for Mutineers

Secretary Weeks' letter to Chairman Kahn of the house military affairs committee, explaining why the war department opposes clemency for the negro soldiers serving time in Leavenworth for murder and mutiny during their attack on Houston in 1917, is conclusive, and should put an end to the efforts that have been made from time to time to relieve these negroes of the penalty for their crimes.

The secretary of war points out that the evidence against the negroes was clear, and their guilt was fully established. No negroes were convicted, as has been claimed by certain irresponsible agitators, because they were absent from roll call. The evidence has been reviewed, time and again, the secretary declares, to see if injustice had been done in any case, and in every instance the reviewing officers have recommended against clemency.

These repeated reviewings of the case clearly establish the justice of the verdicts of the original courtmartial at San Antonio that tried the cases.

That original trial court was not a Southern court. It was a military tribunal composed of high officers of the United States army. Local sentiment had no influence in determining the verdicts.

The evidence disclosed conclusively that these men, while members of the Twenty-fourth infantry, experienced soldiers of the regular establishment, broke camp in defiance of their officers, shot at their commanding officer who sought to restrain them, marched armed and in military formation into the city of Houston, shooting and killing promiscuously innocent and unarmed citizens, as well as policemen on duty, killing and mutilating the body of a captain of the Illinois National Guard, who ordered them to turn back, and wounding various other soldiers who came to the defense of the city.

The whole affair was primarily a mutiny and has been erroneously called a riot. It was an unwarranted and murderous attack on an innocent people by a vicious body of soldiers supplied with too much liquor, and encouraged by a few low and vicious members of their own race.

Under these circumstances, so clearly established by the evidence, the secretary of war could conscientiously take no other position than the one he has taken, but he is to be commended for the frank, and positive reply he has given regarding the case.

The demand for clemency for the negroes has come from racial agitators and politicians who have chosen to ignore the record and to make it appear that the penalties were severe because the offenders were negroes. Nothing is further from the truth, and the war secretary's statement should be the final chapter in the case.

The people of Houston are gratified at his stand, not because they are vindictive or prejudiced, but because they desire to see justice done.

NO CLEMENCY FOR TWENTY- FOURTH INFANTRYMEN

12/16/21
Afro-American *Baltimore Md.*

Secretary Of War Weeks Makes Report To Congress In Response To Anthony Resolution of Inquiry

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15.—Representative Anthony of Kansas offered a resolution asking that (From a Washington correspondent.) There will be no recommendation of clemency through the Leavenworth penitentiary that some of the men claimed to for participation in the riot at have been convicted on circumstantial evidence in that they were result of a report made to Congress only absent from roll call at the today by Secretary of the War time of the crime.

Weeks in response to the Anthony resolution. Nineteen of the colored soldiers who participated in the riot were hanged at San Antonio, 62 being sent to the penitentiary for life, and 5 for 15 years each.

added there was no race prejudice in the trial of the men, and as to the responsibility for the riot cited that First Sergeant Henry had been organizer of the movement. Each of the men sentenced for life had been tried, the report said on the charge of murder, mutiny, and assault to murder and found guilty on each charge.

The Secretary of War quoted from the report of the Judge Advocate of the army that the Houston crime was without parallel in the history of the army. The Secretary added that the cases of the men convicted had been given careful and special consideration.

No Reason For Reopening Cases

In submitting the report to the House of Representatives, Representative Kahn, chairman of the committee on military affairs, said that there was no reason at this time why the cases should be reopened or taken up.

Several weeks ago a delegation representing the N. A. A. C. P. presented a monster petition to President Harding asking that the colored soldiers in question be pardoned.

Negroes Clearly Guilty of Murder and Mutiny,

Says Secretary

12/9/21

Associated Press Report.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The war department is opposed to granting clemency to the 63 former members of the 24th infantry who are in prison for participating in the Houston riots in August, 1917, the secretary Weeks Thursday informed chairman Kahn of the house military committee.

The secretary in a letter gave information concerning the prisoners, all negroes, sought in a resolution recently introduced by Representative Anthony, republican, Kansas, who asked whether any of the men were in Leavenworth penitentiary for merely missing roll call on the night of the riot and whether there was any likelihood for clemency being extended them.

Not Entitled to Clemency.

"The only reason clemency has not been extended and is not now recommended," Mr. Weeks stated, "is that on account of the offenses of which these men were clearly guilty they are not entitled to clemency."

Secretary Weeks reported that 58 of the 110 men convicted of participating in the riots were serving life sentences, while five others were in prison serving sentences of 15 years each. Of the others, 19 were executed, the letter stated, six have died in confinement and the rest have either served out their prison terms or have been granted clemency.

Evidence Reviewed Repeatedly.

None was found guilty because he had been absent from roll call on the night of the riot, Mr. Weeks said. Practically all of those still in prison, the letter

had been reviewed repeatedly to determine whether any injustices had been done, but in every instance the reviewing officers had recommended against clemency.

Soldiers - 1921

Riots

APPEAL TO PRESIDENT HARDING TO PARDON TWENTY-FOURTH HEROES COURT-MARTIALED FOR TEXAS RIOT

Mayor Gillen and Dean Pickens Address Mighty Throng at
Broad Street Theatre, Who Raise Large Fund in
Behalf of Prisoners Now in Leavenworth

New York News
By A. J. GARY.
Newark, N. J., Mar. 15.—Never before in the history of Newark's population has there ever been such an outpouring of colored people which was witnessed here on Sunday last at the beautiful Broad Street Theatre, which was packed beyond capacity, with not even standing room left. The meeting was held under the auspices of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The meeting opened at 3 p.m. sharp. Dr. W. W. Wollfe presided. The chairman introduced Attorney Randolph, who read the petition to President Harding which asked for clemency for the 25 infantrymen who were condemned to prison by drumhead court-martial in the fall of 1917 for rioting at Houston, Tex., from ten to forty years and life.

Dean Pickens Makes Appeal.

William Pickens, field secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., was principal speaker and addressed an appeal to the country. It was one of the most masterly appeals that ever was addressed to a people for assistance in behalf of worthy men who were dealt with so unjustly. The audience to a man hung on his words and amidst bursting of applause time and time again as Prof. Pickens drew pictures of the history of this famous and brave infantry which was organized during the Civil War and which have fought in all the country's wars since.

It was indeed an appeal that touched not only the hearts of the vast audience of men and women, but they dug deep down in their purses, some giving \$25, some \$50, and numbers of them contributing \$100, until in less than twenty minutes \$1,000 cash had been collected and fully \$2,000 pledged. The speaker spoke for more than one hour and it was a story that made men weep.

Mayor Chas. P. Gillen came in while Principal Wm. A. Credit was speaking, and was immediately introduced.

The Mayor Lauds Colored Troops.

Mayor Gillen gave a short history of the colored troops during the war, and then said that he believed that all men should be punished when

crimes are committed, but no doubt the colored people felt that these men had been sufficiently punished, and that since the war was over they were entitled to their freedom, and he also felt that if a petition was presented to President Harding asking for clemency, he would grant it, and he would gladly sign such a petition. This statement brought forth thunderous applause.

Congressman Taylor of the Newark district in a short speech told the audience that he did not know much about the case of the soldiers, but was willing to serve his constituency at any time, and that he would be glad to take the petition to the President asking for clemency and mercy for the condemned men. The remarkable thing about the meeting was that every church, civic, social and secret organization was represented, and contributed heavily in behalf of the cause. Patriotic songs were sung, led by Robert A. Travis.

It was estimated that fully two thousand signed the petition.

**100,000 APPEAL
TO FREE NEGROES**
COLORADO SFGS COL TELEGRAPH
MARCH 16, 1921

NEW YORK, March 16.—Release of 21 negro members of the Twenty-fourth infantry, who are now imprisoned for their connection with the Houston, Tex. riots of 1917, is asked in a petition now being circulated by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The association hopes to obtain 100,000 signatures to the petition, when it will be forwarded to President Harding.

The petition declares local animosity had been shown the soldiers before the riot and says the 13 men hanged were executed without having been given the right of appeal to the secretary of war or the president.

Texas

Appeal Order Is Granted To The "Houston Rioters"

Chicago Whip 5/7/21
LEAVENWORTH, KANS., May 7.—Judge John C. Pollock signed an order last Wednesday allowing an appeal to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in the cases of the sixty-three former soldiers of the 24th U. S. Infantry convicted of rioting in Houston, Texas, in 1917. A petition for executive clemency is also being prepared for presentation to President Harding.

SIXTY-THREE MEMBERS OF
TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY
WILL APPEAL CASE.

5-2-21
Case of Sixty-three Former Soldiers in Twenty-fourth Infantry, Who Are Now Inmates of Federal Penitentiary, Gets Another Hearing, Probably Next September.

Washington Bee

The Leavenworth (Kansas) Times today says that efforts to release the Houston rioters, sixty-three former soldiers of the Twenty-fourth infantry, from the Federal penitentiary, have been renewed. A petition for executive clemency and pardon already has been forwarded to President Harding through Secretary of War Weeks and yesterday T. W. Bell, one of the three attorneys in the case, secured the signature of Judge John C. Pollock to an order allowing an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

With the petition, signed by the sixty-three prisoners, already forwarded, with other petitions being circulated for "at least a million signatures," if the hopes of the attorneys are realized, and with the appeal to be heard probably next September before the Circuit Court of Appeals at Denver, the Houston rioters have two chances for freedom other than waiting for the expiration of prison terms.

The first attempt for freedom on the part of the Houston rioters was unsuccessful. It was in May of last year that an argument for writ of habeas corpus was made before Judge Pollock of the United States District Court. The brief in the case was not what the name implies; in fact, there were several volumes of printed testimony, affidavits and copies of military orders issued at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where the

men were convicted.

It was the contention of the counsel that the order of the court-martial was not in accordance with laws set out in the court-martial manual, that at the time of the riot the men were not doing soldier duty for the United States, and that the United States was not at war. It was alleged, too, that the former soldiers were convicted under special orders from headquarters of the Southern Department not regularly issued. It was claimed that many of the petitioners had no right to appeal and that there was no evidence against many of them.

After the case was argued and all the briefs were submitted, Judge Pollock took it under advisement and after making a thorough review of the briefs upon his return from an extended vacation, the decision was handed down last December. The writ was denied, but Judge Pollock signed the order allowing an appeal.

The Houston riot occurred on August 23, 1917. Incidents leading to the riot are described in a brief as follows: "About 10:30 o'clock a. m., August 23, 1917, city probate officers Lee Sparks and R. H. Daniels, raided a 'crap' game which was being conducted by some Negro boys at the corner of San Felipe and Wilson streets, Houston, Texas. Upon the approach of these officers, the boys ran, one of them going into a nearby house occupied by a colored woman. Officer Sparks, in an endeavor to locate the boy, spoke to the woman and an altercation ensued, which ended by the arrest of the woman. It is claimed that while placing the woman under arrest, Officer Sparks slapped her in the face. In any case, Private Alonzo Edwards, Company L, 24th infantry, who was partially drunk at the time, attempted to interfere with Officer Sparks, and as a result was promptly beaten up and placed under arrest.

"About 2 o'clock p. m., of the same day, Corporal Charles Baltimore, Company I, Twenty-fourth infantry, a member of the military police, approached Officer Sparks and Officer Daniels, engaging Sparks in conversation relative to the arrest of Edwards. Accounts vary as to the details of this conversation, but it was ended by Sparks striking Baltimore over the head with a pistol. Baltimore then

ran. Sparks fired three shots from his pistol and pursued Baltimore into a house, where he had taken refuge. Baltimore states that he was forced by Sparks to come out from under a bed, and upon doing so was again struck twice over the head with a pistol in the hands of Sparks, placed under arrest and taken to the city jail.

"The news of that incident quickly reached the camp of the Twenty-fourth infantry, where it rapidly grew into a false report that Corporal Baltimore had been killed, which report served to intensify further the feelings of the soldiers against the city policemen."

It was then that the soldiers went to Houston and the riot followed. There were nearly 400 soldiers in the riot.

As a result of the court-martial proceedings several soldiers were executed. Nineteen or more were sentenced to life imprisonment. Others received short sentences served at the Disciplinary Barracks of Fort Leavenworth. Only a few were acquitted. Sixty-three still remain in prison.

Hon. T. W. Bell, of Leavenworth, Kans., has spent some of the good money of the people by getting out a petition with new extracts containing the names and cause of incarceration of the Soldiers of the Houston Riot who are now in Leavenworth. Mr. Bell was the leading attorney in this case and took upon himself to go over the country and solicit these funds, guaranteeing the people he would take this case to the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court if necessary, and liberate these unfortunate soldiers. Now instead of appealing this case as he agreed to, he is now taking the petition route.

We wish to call attention of the public to the fact that the N. A. A. C. P. has a petition all over the United States being signed up to send to the President and the War Department for the release of these unfortunate Soldiers and that Mr. Bell was not employed by the Kansas Defense Society to draw up a petition, but file legal papers and facts that the Court would be justified in releasing them.

He visited the Masonic Grand Lodge at Chanute, Kans., and other Lodges and made them a flat statement that it would take something between five

(over)

(From Over)

and eight thousand dollars, to appeal this case and that he was going to appeal the case and get the boy liberated.

Now we can not understand why he resorted to this petition, when he told the people at the different gatherings what he could. We take great pleasure in running his cut and study it carefully. So far as we are concerned, he would not be invited to address any Colored institution of any kind until he clears himself on this Houston Riot affair. He has gone over the country and gotten the money and not accounted to the people for the amount collected and he was employed by the Society and should account to us for the amount collected.

It was through the editor of the Plaindealer and the Kansas Defense Society that we employed Mr. T. W. Bell. After being employed he took upon himself to collect three or four thousand dollars, kept the money and made one report to the office, ignored the organization and us entirely, which shows his methods are dishonest. The following communication will speak for themselves, show our motive in the organization and what we are trying to succeed in doing and that is, get these fellows out.

Mr. Bell informed us that it would take several thousand dollars while the United States Attorney said it would only take \$500.00. We insist that Mr. Bell carry out his agreement, that is, appeal this case with the money collected. The following are the communications:

You will note from the tone of some of his letters, when he was hungry for money, he began to write us quite often and very encouraging letters. You will note in the communications that we began to take cold feet as he began to slow up and he was very anxious to see us and this was about the time he wanted to launch his campaign to take money in before the case was decided by Judge Pollard.

BETTING DOWN TO THE FACTS IN THE SOLDIER BOYS' CASE

The Kansas Defense Society Is After Results and Not Petitions.

3-27-24 Topeka Plaindealer

Topeka, Kans.

Feb. 28, 1918.

Hon. T. W. Bell,

Atty. at Law.

Leavenworth, Kans.

My dear sir:

We are contemplating on bringing to a test the constitutionality of the trial of the soldiers of the 24th Infantry who were tried and convicted at Fort Sam Houston for participation in the riot there in August, 1917 and for which thirteen were hanged and thirty-eight are now incarcerated in the Federal Prison at Leavenworth. Under the code under which they were convicted, the president has said that this does not apply to this country but over in France.

Under the military rules of this country all court martials have to be reviewed by the president and in this case, no reviewing was done except by the commanding general of the southern department. We want this matter thoroughly gone over and wish to know what procedure we should use in the matter, in order to secure for these men their rights and for this we will create and solicit a fund to pay lawyers to take action in the matter.

We doubt very much the authority of this court martial to convict these men and think they should be tried by a jury.

Before we do this we would like to know what steps to take so there will be no guess work.

The Topeka Plaindealer is championing the cause of these soldiers and expects to see that the funds are raised to defray expenses.

We would like to know your retainer fee in a matter of this kind after you have given us to understand if anything can be done. You can be furnished with a copy of the trial and information that you may wish

and for further information on the power of the court martial in a case like this, you will have to obtain elsewhere either from the War department or from rules and regulations laid down in some military book. You must understand that a court martial can be mistaken as well as judges on a bench and ought to be subject to errors.

We have written the Hon. Wm. H. Lewis of Boston and Elisha Scott of this city who will be associated with you in this case; and of course we want one white man attorney, a strong man who we will decide on later.

Now let me hear from you with reference to this matter.

Very truly yours,
Nick Chiles.

Leavenworth, Kans.
Mar. 11, 1918.

Hon. Nick Chiles,
Editor Plaindealer,
Topeka, Kans.

My dear Chiles:-

Your letter of February 28th came to me in due time, I note that you say relative to the Ft. Sam Houston matter and hasten to say, that I would be pleased to confer with the Hon. Wm. H. Lewis of Boston and the Hon. Elisha Scott of your City relative to the same, they are both splendid men of whom I have an admiration for.

Now, the matter you want to know more is what to do, and what we can do, and what we believe ought to be done. It is a fight and the kind I enjoy, and the kind that I see victory ahead, and the kind I would be pleased to take part in with the two gentlemen you speak of. I have a fixed mind on the matter as I briefed upon it as for myself at the time it happened.

The retainer fee is an important item and I would want

to talk with you personally along that line, as there is an expense to the lawyers who take up the matter and there is a way in taking up the matter and presenting it to the court that will catch the admiration of the true and fair consideration of, and by the court. These are the things which must be courted carefully, that is the reason I shall here refuse at this time to comment further or differently until I have talked with you. You say that Court Martial can be mistaken and men can be wickedly wrong when he cares not to do right and refuse to be fair, and as for the vengeance to please his wicked mind.

So I shall close and will be in Topeka some day this week and talk with you and Mr. Scott and learn what you know about Mr. Lewis.

Pleasantly yours,
T. W. Bell.

Topeka, Kans.
June. 20, 1918.

Hon. T. W. Bell,
Atty. for Kansas Defense Society,
Leavenworth, Kans.

Dear sir:

As per agreement, you will find enclosed check for \$50 as a little expense money to assist you in preparing papers for the bringing of habeas corpus proceedings in the case of the court martialled soldiers of the 24th Infantry now incarcerated in the Federal Prison at Leavenworth. I have sent Mr. E. T. Barbour check for \$40 and Elisha Scott, \$20 and shall instruct them that you are beginning to prepare the papers for the matter and that you will correspond with them as chief attorney in the matter. Please remember that when this case is brought and when given to the associated press and newspapers that we will use the name of the Kansas Defense Society, Nick Chiles President and you as chief attorney.

We want every body given full credit for what they do so that the public may know. I think I will try and have a meeting arranged in Leavenworth soon so that I can make a talk on this proposition and collect some funds there. Mr. Samuels has headed the list with \$5.00. Of course you understand we intend to make this organization permanent and have

it so that any time anything happens to our people in this western country, we will have some funds on hand and can employ attorneys at once to take the matter up, and it is up to men like you to assist us in making this organization permanent.

Very truly yours,
Nick Chiles, Pres
Kansas Defense Society

Vanguard 6/23/21
Judge Jackson of the Phillips County Circuit Court has finally granted a change of venue for the six Elaine men who are now in line for a third trial. He is to be congratulated upon his breadth and fairness in these cases, in spite of the strong circumstances against him in these cases. The Phillips County authorities and citizens cannot lose anything by dealing fairly and squarely with those helpless men whose lives are now in the hands of a few. The outside world is looking on, and is anxiously waiting for some more sensation to talk about and write about and this is one of the greatest opportunities for the best data for the outside world. Old Arkansas' future is hanging breathless, almost, upon the final course taken with these men who have been so long facing the electric chair, while other more responsible parties have gone free.

Soldiers - 1921.

R. O. T. C.

ST JOSEPH MO GAZETTE

MAY 14, 1921

Negro R. O. T. C. Field Day

The ~~Bartlett~~ (negro) high school field day exercises for the R. O. T. C. were held at the Auditorium Friday night. The drill was not competitive, but the company of negro cadets executed the manual of arms and close order formations with a precision that would insure them a place in competition with other organizations.